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Elk Point Bantam Sox started off the season with a big win over Wainwright.....Page 3

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Elk Point pitches in to help fire evacuees

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

When word of the forest fire devastating Fort McMurray reached Elk Point resident Carmen Waselick, she was quick to react. Last Tuesday evening, with the fire dominating television coverage, she asked all of her Facebook friends for help.

"In the days ahead, the residents of Fort McMurray are going to need support from their fellow Albertans. I have at least one very close friend who has in all likelihood lost her home, her job, and everything she owns. I would like to start collecting donations of whatever is going to be needed, and putting together an effort to help these displaced people. I don't have many connections, but I know many of my friends do.

Who wants to help make something happen?"

Elk Point residents and businesses were equally quick to respond when she asked if anyone had an enclosed trailer or shop where items could be dropped off, and had similar success when she expressed hope that a trucking company would donate delivery. Less than three hours later, she was happy to report, "Relief for victims of the Fort McMurray fires is being organized as we speak. Elite Self Storage has donated a unit to house goods until transport, and B&R Eckel's will be providing transportation to Edmonton Emergency Relief Services, which will distribute items where needed."

Later that day, with donations already coming in, she was able to find clothing for a family that fled the fire and was staying with relatives in Elk Point, and on Friday, after two exhausting days of accepting and sorting donations, she and Melissa Skarsen picked up a trailer load of donations that had been dropped off at Elk Point Co-op.

Skarsen had been in Bonnyville earlier that day and learned that people arriving there from Fort McMurray and going to the Alberta Works building to receive placement and support were waiting up to three or four hours and the staff had run out of food for them.

"So, paired with the desire we've seen from so many community members to help those that have come to the Lakeland first, we decided that should be our destination," Waselick says. "Melissa, her mom, Lynn, and I got there about 7 p.m., and gave them as many snack foods, personal hygiene products, and drinks as they could handle. They directed us to a few other places in town that we could check to see if there was a need."

At one of the motels, "We were able to help a few people with essentials and the individuals we spoke to directed us to the Baptist Church. The volunteers there met us with enthusiasm, and we got to work unloading the rest of our supplies."

(Continued on Page 3)



RELIEF COLLECTION COORDINATOR Carmen Waselick (right) and Melissa Skarsen collected a trailer load of donations from local residents that had been brought to or purchased at Elk Point Co-op to help out the Fort McMurray evacuees.

Contributed photo

Teen volunteer Megan Phillips recognized as a 'Great Kid'

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Those who know the busy F. G. Miller High School student were not surprised when a very proud and excited Sherry Bower Gagne said last week that Megan Phillips has been awarded a Great Kids Award.

Phillips received her award in Edmonton on May 1 during a celebration of Great Kids from across Alberta, where the Government of Alberta recognized 16 outstanding young leaders from across the province.

This year marks the 16th Annual Great Kids Award since it was first launched in 1999. This award is given out through Alberta Human Services and celebrates

Alberta's remarkable young people who impact the lives of others and are role models in their community.

"Yes, indeed, we would say, "That's Megan," Bower Gagne commented.

Megan is very involved at F. G. Miller as an active member of the Practitioners of Underground Philanthropy (P.U.P), SADD and the yearbook committee. She is one of two FGM student representatives that attend CAPC (Community Advisory Policing Committee) meetings, where she provides a young person's perspective in regards to our community. Megan works at the Co-op along with baby-sitting and carrying quite a balance of schoolwork, friendships and volunteer work.

(Continued on Page 2)



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Great Kid

(Continued from Front Page)

A biography posted on the Human Services website states, "Megan is dedicated to doing well in her studies and often volunteers to lead a project despite the time commitment. Megan does her work with a smile and inspires others to get involved. She excels at fairly voicing her opinion on what is right in

GREAT KID AWARD winner Megan Phillips is congratulated by MLA David Hanson.

an open and collaborative way and takes charge to create or be part of school events. She is bright, positive and committed. Megan consistently goes out of her way to interact with those who might not feel accepted. She does not need to be coached or mentored to do these things; she just does what comes naturally to her. She's got the knack for being responsible and flexible at the same time, a recipe for success."

Elk Point is so proud of Megan and the good work she is doing in her school, community and beyond.

Congratulations to a very deserving young lady who does her best to help the community and surrounding area in any way she can.

Heated debate

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Remarks made by Elk Point Chamber of Commerce president Jonny Nielsen in an early morning radio interview regarding St. Paul and District Co-op's decision to open a liquor store in Elk Point brought Co-op general manager Graham Getz, petroleum manager Dwayne Odgaard and Elk Point food floor manager Mark Gormley to last week's chamber meeting to debate the issue.

Nielsen was quick to defend his action and said that the clip aired had been only part of the conversation. He said that he does in fact support the Co-op's decision to open a liquor store in Elk Point, although there are two others in town, and acknowledged that neither of those stores are members of the chamber.

Chamber members present were quick to defend the Co-op's decision, and expressed their belief that the enlarged Co-op store and cardlock fuel facilities are huge assets to the community and surrounding area, which the president also agreed. He also noted that vacant spots on Co-op shelves, which he had also remarked on previously in a letter to the Co-op, were declining in number.

Plant closure only a rumor

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Rumours were flying around the area last week that a resource industry that has been part of this area since the late 1940s planned to close down.

Fortunately, those rumours are not true, according to Lindsay Caradonna of Ketchum Public Relations, who speaks on behalf of Windsor Salt's Lindbergh works, and says production is continuing as usual.

"Windsor Salt has been part of Western Canada for over 65 years and we remain committed to operating in the region. To have a sustainable presence, we need to ensure our produc-

tion network can meet the needs of the marketplace for the long-term. That's why we're currently analyzing ways to strengthen our network in Western Canada. For competitive reasons, we are not in a position to share details of our analysis. But I can confirm that we are not making any major changes with respect to our operations at this time. It's business as usual at our production sites in Western Canada and we will continue to focus on the needs of our customers across the country."

Windsor Salt's Lindbergh works employs approximately 50 people and produces a variety of salt products for home, farm, industry and commercial use.

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Fire relief

(Continued from Front Page)

These two were able to talk with evacuees "and we could really see the appreciation these people have for the efforts we're making. We were very happy that we were able to deliver all the supplies collected in our community to people in our area."

The volunteer effort has been rewarding, Waselick says. "I think I've had the most gratifying experiences of my life the past few days. I've had so many people working along side me and pulling together and getting done what needed to get done. But I got to take clothing, donations, and essentials to two families, personally meet them, hug them, and let them know that all of Alberta has their backs. To see the gratitude, to cry with them, and look them in the eye and be able to tell them that we're here for them, that was more than I can even describe. I'm so proud of my little girl who took her own money and gave it to a family so that they could buy things that they need. Words cannot even describe how full my heart is."

Waselick says she's "overwhelmed by the response of the community. We have had so many people willing to help sort and collect donations, and make deliveries to where the supplies are needed. It has been incredibly heartwarming to see the outpouring of love and compassion for our fellow Albertans, as well as the gratitude displayed by those we are helping."

Just before press time, Hollow River Transport contacted the *Elk Point Review* to say the company is offering fuel, labor and trucks to transport donations to wherever needed.

Terri Castle, who spent at least part of her Mother's Day sorting donations, said there are many others involved in the effort to help, donating the use of a trailer, truck and fuel to deliver supplies to Kikino for the 700-plus evacuees there, helping to sort clothes at the storage locker, assisting with loading and delivery, helping to find special items on the list of requirements, "and of course all of the community so generously donated to our fellow Albertans who need our support and love as they are forced to 'start again from nothing.' Talking to some families today made my heart heavy with sadness and compassion for all they are going through... I just can't imagine the loss they are feeling," adding, "Thanks again for being awesome Elk Point!"



Lions Walk for Sight raises \$1,330

Vicki Brooker photo

A total of 17 participants, accompanied by three dogs, walked, ran and biked just under 10 km on Saturday morning in the annual Elk Point and District Lions Walk for Sight, bringing in \$1,330 in pledges, almost \$100 more than last year's \$1,235 total. The Havener family collected a total of \$430 to claim the Most Pledges title, while George Hahn, who raised a substantial \$400, was the oldest walker and Adasyn Havener was this year's youngest participant.

Bantam Sox start season with win

I don't remember ever having the first round of provincial round robins in early May ever being this warm, in fact there have been many years when we have played with the weather around zero and there were flurries in the air. The Bantam Sox traveled to Sherwood Park this past weekend and the temperature soared to the high twenties on Saturday afternoon. Hot enough that the boys drank a huge five-gallon bucket of water in the first game and we had to go searching for water to make it through the second game. A really good start for the boys, winning their first game of the season 15 to 7 over Wainwright. Dustyn 'Dust Pan' Pankiw getting the call to the hill to pitch the season opener, Cody 'the Babe' Fairbairn and brother Braden 'Magnet' Fairbairn both coming in on relief. 'Dust Pan' doing a good job at the plate too, he almost completed the cycle, with a single, double and a triple, all he needed was a home run, 'Magnet' getting on base all five times he came to the plate, three of those times getting hit by a pitch. There's a reason why we call him the 'Magnet'! The 'Babe' added two singles, a double and five RBIs.

In the second game on Saturday, the boys faced the Sherwood Park 'A's and the result of this one was not as positive, the Sox losing by 10 runs in five innings. Corbin 'Crusher' Ockerman starting on the mound in this one, but his defense wasn't helping the cause very much and were not

nearly as sharp, committing five errors which undoubtedly contributed to the results.



**doug
BASSETT**
Review Sports

The Athletics also took advantage of the Sox once they got on base, playing a very aggressive game of base stealing. This is an area that the Sox will be working on, picking off runners leading off, keeping them honest, otherwise the top teams such as Sherwood Park will take advantage of this and run on every pitch.

On Sunday the weather had turned much more seasonal for this time of the year, with a cool wind in the air, the boys were all wearing a few extra layers to stay comfortable. The boys played almost a perfect game on the defense, committing only two errors by the infielders, but the outfielders had an awesome game coming up with huge catches. Graham 'Uncle Cracker' Broda with two beautiful diving catches, 'Dust Pan' catching one close to fence in center field and Dalton '007' Reed with one in right field that made whole lot easier game for starter pitcher Grady 'Gravy Train' Frazer who would buzz though the line up using very few pitches. The boys eventually lost a very close 7 to 4 game to Heisler, but were never out of this one, and would have easily won if they could have put a few hits together. The 'Magnet' with two singles,

'Crusher' pounding a RBI triple, the 'Babe' with a single and two RBIs, 'Dust Pan' and Colton 'Big Mac' McLean with a single would be all the hits the boys could muster. A few others would get on base, but the bats just didn't bring them home.... but overall this was the most entertaining game of the weekend.

Down in the minors, the Peeewe Boys won big time in Bonnyville this past week on Thursday night. Tyler Warawa reports that the final score was 13 - 4 in Elk Point's favour. Brandon Goertzen pitched two innings, only allowing three runs. Keith Stuparyk, Jace Stafford and Cole Bendixen each pitched one inning and only allowed one run between them. Andon Ballas came in to close the game on his birthday and only needed 11 pitches to finish off the game. The boys were all on the bats too, hitting the ball really well for their first game. The best part of the whole game is they didn't make an error all night. A great start to the season.

And it was just a Storm girls' hockey team reunion when the Marwayne peewee girls came to play against the Peeewe Pumas here on Wednesday night. Jelena 'Prime Time' Parr and Jace 'Jack Hammer' Weidmark in the lineup for Marwayne, Georgia 'Gorgeous' Bendixen and Erin Duffee playing for the Pumas. The Pumas winning this one, 'Gorgeous' belting a huge home run for the Pumas and some fine pitching as well. Erin and 'Raging Paige' Henderson sharing the catching duties.

And now for the K A Campbell quote of the week: "I never throw a spitter, well maybe once or twice when I really needed to get a guy out real bad." Last week's answer to "I never question the integrity of an umpire. Their eyesight, yes." - Leo Durocher



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Inside Wise
 PAUSE. BREATHE. LISTEN

EDITORIAL

Wildfires serve nobody right

It is extremely hard to understand how, in the midst of the outpouring of help and support for the refugees who fled from the destruction of homes, jobs and schools in Fort McMurray, that some thoughtless individuals have seen fit to declare that it 'serves them right' and that they deserve to be homeless and to flee with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

How can anybody be so unfeeling?

Yes, that city is there because of the oil sands development. Those oil sands provide jobs for much of that area's population, but they also provide fuel for a nation, as does our own oilpatch. Those who say the forest fire serves that community right obviously don't drive vehicles or heat their homes with natural gas. If they do, it would also serve them right if their fuel supply disappeared and left them cold and stranded.

RECREATION CORNER

Block party protocol outlined

JENA COLBOURNE
Recreation Coordinator

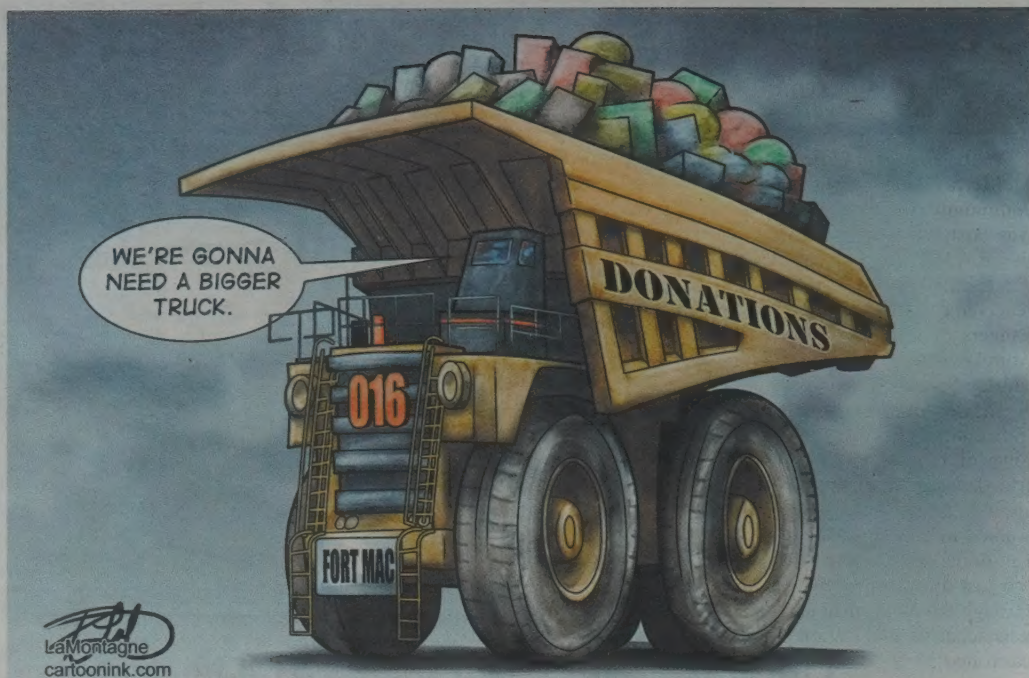
The Town of Elk Point has implemented a Block Party Policy just in time for the warm weather and sunshine. Please don't think of the policy as a rigid guide to how to party, but rather a big OK that you can get to know your neighbours and hold parties on your street.

Some residents came to us last summer and asked what they needed to do to host a block party on their street, and we really didn't know. That was the first request anyone in the Town Office had for a block party. People may have had informal block parties or multi-yard get-togethers, but as crazy as it sounds, Elk Point residents had never hosted a block party. Since there was a lot of confusion on what the proper procedures were, as well as, how do we keep people safe during the block party, the Town decided to come up with a policy.

These guidelines, in the policy, are in place to make sure everyone can enjoy themselves and stay safe. Because a block party is held on the street and there are lots of children and maybe even pets, we need to close down the street. So in doing that, we have to make the street is closed properly and that neighbours from other blocks over aren't affected negatively. We also have to make sure emergency vehicles are still able to get to those streets. Once we started looking into all the possibilities of what could happen, there was a lot to consider. There are neighbours down the street to consider, as well. We want to make sure the people three or four blocks over aren't put out.

With that all in mind, the main goal was for people in the town to get to know each other, bond and build a sense of community. We want people to have that small town feel that comes with living in Elk Point. Where neighbours look out for each other and help keep our community vibrant and fun.

The Town hopes there are many block parties throughout the summer, I would love to see a different one every weekend! If you need some help in hosting a block party or getting all the information you need, you can contact Jena Colbourne 780-207-5898 or recreation@elkpoint.ca. Block Party applications must be submitted to the Town 15 days before the event. All the information and the policy will be made available on the Town of Elk Point's new website, elkpoint.ca.



WAY BACK WHEN...

New lodge, barnyard romance and shopping local

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND THE ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 10 IN...

1986

The explosion of an oil storage tank at the Murphy Oil facility left one construction worker dead and another in hospital with multiple injuries in Alberta's first oil patch fatality of the year. The newly completed Heritage Lodge welcomed its first six residents, who were joined by the town and county councils and MLA John Drobot and other distinguished guests for a celebratory dinner.

1991

"Tomorrow is waiting for us," Heinsburg Community School valedictorian Loretta Smuk told her 16 fellow graduates, advising them to "Live each second as if it were your last." Elk Point Ukrainian Dance Club was 70 dancers strong, ranging from tiny pre-beginners to energetic adults, all of them entertaining a packed crowd at their spring concert.

1996

An ad hoc physician recruitment committee, consisting of representatives from town and county councils, the health centre, medical professionals, a realtor and the town manager, was formed in an attempt to recruit another doctor for Elk Point and reached an agreement with the Regional Health Authority to renovate the former nurses' residence and upgrade the medical clinic. Northern Expressions Art Club's second annual art show and sale was a great success, with 28 exhibitors displaying their work.

2001

Beautiful maiden Lesia (Eva Gusnowski) met the man of her dreams, humble farmer Slavko (Travis Lindquist) in a charming play about a barnyard

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

romance at the Metelytsia Ukrainian Dance Club's 22nd Annual Spring Concert. Local athlete Tanya Pankiw won national gold at the Canadian Women's Junior Handball tournament.

2006

Employee recognition was an important part of the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce 2006 Shop Local campaign, and plans were set for an employee and staff appreciation evening with a guest speaker prior to the Shop Local kickoff.



Local Girl Guides and the F. G. Miller French Club (shown above) joined the Elk Point 4-H Multi Club in the annual spring cleaning of ditches along area highways.

2011

Plans for adding crafts and cuisine to the lineup for the annual Elk Point Auto Club Show and Shine were coming along well, with chamber of commerce president Sandy Smith reporting that more than 30 booth holders had already paid to be part of the event, and more were coming in. The Elk Point Review was declared generally excellent by Alberta Weekly Newspaper Association judges, bringing home Best Overall Score and Best Front Page plaques for its circulation class.

ELK POINT REVIEW

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Strong message delivered at P.A.R.T.Y. Program

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

With emergency personnel dispatched to Fort McMurray to assist with the wildfire devastating that community, the planned re-creation of a vehicle crash was postponed to a later date, but students attending the P.A.R.T.Y. (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth) session at F. G. Miller High School received a strong and unforgettable message about the dangers of impaired driving later on Friday morning from keynote speaker Natasha Urkow and her mother, Shirley Sander.

Urkow was 'just coming out of high school' on Oct. 29, 2008 when she came back from BC to her hometown of Edmonton for a job interview. She and her friends were in a bar drinking and "smoking things we shouldn't have been smoking" when "a really cute guy wanted to take us to a club. We got in the guy's car, I'm in the back seat, we're going down the Whitemud too fast and it's icy. We spun out of control, I flew through the windshield and landed on a guard rail," the wheelchair-bound paraplegic told the students. "The car rolled 10 or 20 times."

That she was here to tell about it, Urkow credits to the fact that "there was an angel watching. An off-duty paramedic saw everything and called 911. He saw the driver crawl out of the car and run toward me and the angel tackled him to stop him from touching me. The firemen found I'd stopped breathing. They stabilized me and I was rushed to the University Hospital."

Urkow acknowledged that as a teenager, "I didn't have a good reputation. I liked to party, I didn't like to follow rules and I skipped school a lot. When the policemen came to my mom's door, she asked, 'What did she do now?' but the police were preparing my family to say their goodbyes." Arriving at the hospital, her mother gave consent for surgery, "but they still couldn't proceed. They had to fish my tongue ring out of my stomach first. My neck and back were broken in 10 places. They did a bone graft from my hip and put in a titanium rod to reattach my head. I was placed into an induced coma for three and a half or four weeks and they filled my body with fluid to prevent me from threshing around."

While crashes like that happen every day, "nobody thinks it can happen to them," Urkow said, noting that her injuries also included a ruptured spleen, collapsed lungs and a broken shoulder. She was in intensive care for four months and "Everything was blurry. People see you and they cry. They told me I could be in long-term care the rest of my life, but my mom wouldn't listen. I had reiki and other healers, and I made progress, and was eventually placed in a normal ward. When they took my tracheotomy tube out and I could talk, the nurses couldn't believe it."

She was eventually well enough to be moved to a rehabilitation hospital where the doctor "poked every



A MOTHER'S VIEW of a her daughter's crash and life as a paraplegic was brought forward by Shirley Sander (right) at the conclusion of the keynote speech by her daughter, Natasha Urkow.

inch of my body, did an assessment, consulted with other doctors and told me I would never be able to walk again. Every day, the doctor would remind me of my limitations and the nurses were drones, trying to get me to accept my new reality. You don't know who to believe. My mother was coming in with healers and priests and prayer. I couldn't take it, I spiraled into a deep depression and couldn't sleep for six months; it almost made me crack"

In retrospect, Urkow said of herself and her friends, "we were crazy, we didn't care about consequences, we had ridden with drunk drivers and driven under the influence. Those friends disappeared after the crash, they felt uncomfortable around me." The driver was seen in a bar by Urkow's sister a few weeks later, she said. "People just don't learn."

She could have given up, but she had a great support system, including a family friend who wanted to help train her brain and who introduced her to a woman who had eventually recovered from similar injuries. She had caregivers, one of whom drained her bank account, since she couldn't use a bank card without hand function. Then she heard about "Project Walk" in California, where "they took me out of the wheelchair and said, 'move your legs.' I tried it, I didn't, it got me on my feet two years after the crash."

Returning to Canada, she focused on rehabilitation until she ran out of money, then enrolled in school, although the doctor had warned her that studying could be difficult. "I didn't know if I could do it, but I passed and got into university." Her only interests in high school had been acting, dance and cheerleading, and she applied to the University of Regina in theatre, and

after changing classes, she auditioned for a play and got the part. She is now in her third year, the school has developed a class for inclusive theatre and she is part of a theatre group called "Neither Heroes or Ordinary People," where Urkow says she is "the only one with a self-inflicted injury."

"You make decisions that will affect you the rest of your life," she told the students in closing. "I have spoken to elementary kids, their parents drink and drive. There are 86,000 people in Canada with spinal cord injuries. Your life is worth more than that. There is nothing glamorous about life in a wheelchair. I did this to myself, and I'm alive, but it still doesn't feel good to make others feel bad."

Urkow's mother then took over the microphone and gave her side of the story, telling the students that "I ran the driver out of the hospital when he came to see her. He got off being charged because he blew a long time after the crash." She is grateful to still have her daughter with her, "and I am so proud of her."

"I don't ever want to hear about any of you not using your seat belt," she told the students. "When you are getting in a car with someone who's been drinking, ask yourself who is going to be your caregiver. I hope Natasha's message will make a difference in your life."

Presentations on trauma, traffic laws and safety, sexual health and addictions were also part of the P.A.R.T.Y. session.

Tea time tomorrow

A decision by Elk Point Royal Purple to discontinue their long-standing tradition of annual Mother's Day teas gave the Friends of Elk Point Library the opportunity to turn the tables on that hardworking volunteer group.

Royal Purple members past and present will be the guests of honour at tomorrow's Library Tea,

which begins at 2 p.m.

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For children born March 1, 2013 or older

Day Away to Lois Hole Greenhouse May 20, 2016

Are you interested in getting away for the day? The County of St. Paul & Elk Point FCSS and Xtreme Oilfield Technology are offering a day away to the Lois Hole Greenhouse in St. Albert. "The Enjoy Centre" is a unique facility featuring a greenhouse, spa, café, & restaurant, deli, bakery and more.

FREE to anyone who is looking to get away for the day.
*Participants are responsible for additional expenses such as lunch, plants and gifts.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY BY MAY 16, 2016.
PLEASE CONTACT CLAUDETTE OR JANICE AT 780-645-1950

On May 20, 2016 we will be leaving the St. Paul County Office parking lot at 8:00 am and Elk Point at 8:30, at the Elk Point FCSS office. Leaving at 4pm for home.



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Home and
Garden

Spring's here, and the garden beckons us with endless promises of beauty and bounty to enjoy ...

Container gardens provide early colour

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

It may be a little early to put out bedding plants, but that doesn't mean you have to wait to enjoy the beauty of lush spring growth. A visit to Moe's Gardens and Greenhouses last week showed hundreds of ways to add bright and beautiful colour to your home right now.

Moe's is always a popular spot for Mother's Day shopping, and the rows and rows of hanging baskets, so many that it's sometimes hard to choose just one, are among the most popular gifts.

Overflowing with bright-hued petunias, cascades of Million Bells or the multiple blooms of thriving geraniums,

these are gifts that keeps on giving all summer long.

Every spring brings a new and exciting collection of container gardens to take home and enjoy indoors for now, and outdoors for months to come. This year's range from cute ceramic sheep and hollowed tree trunk look-alikes that are just perfect to fill with tiny succulents to tall giant martini glasses and fat miniature wine barrels to house more sophisticated plantings.

For those preferring a more rustic look, there's a delightful selection of willow baskets and handcrafted planters that look like they came straight from the forest.

(Continued on Page 8)



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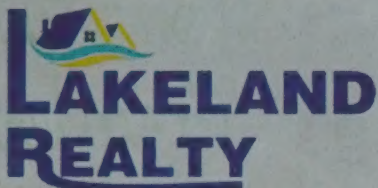
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Colour

(Continued from Page 6)

Taking time to smell the roses? This is certainly the place to do it, with tall and gorgeous rose trees loaded with golden blooms forming the centerpiece of a sea of trailing green in enormous ceramic pots, as well as a large selection of rosebushes for those who have promised themselves - or someone special - a rose garden.

There's also a wide range of choices for those who enjoy designing their own container gardens, from teacup size to three feet tall, along with a vast range of flowers and foliage sized to fit every one of them, and a colour selection that puts the rainbow to shame: brights, pales and everything in between. The ever-popular Million Bells and SuperBells, for instance, range from the deep Double Ruby and Ultra Purple to the bright and bouncy new multi-coloured 'Holy Moly' (below) and a range of delicate pastels.




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**4814 RAILWAY AVE.,
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5017-54 ST., ELK POINT
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3613 ST., E MALLAIG
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**59270 RG RD 122,
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Don't make deer welcome in your garden

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Garden designer and author of multiple garden books Lyndon Penner had bad news for gardeners plagued by deer who attended last month's Gardeners' Day in Bonnyville.

"There are no deer-proof plants. And they not only like vegetable gardens, they aren't nice about it." The deer population's favourite foods "are a really hard thing to study," he noted. "The things they eat in 2016 aren't necessarily what they'll eat in 2017."

Generally, deer are not fond of "anything bristly or hairy, or anything with a strong scent, like rosemary, bee balm or Artemisia. But don't be fooled, they

may eat it anyway." Deer normally don't like junipers, but they are still prone to deer damage "if they're hungry enough."

Most common solutions to deer invasion "are very bad news," Penner said. For example, blood meal is said to deter deer, rabbits and mice, and is very good for promoting lush growth on evergreens and other plants, "but it breaks down very quickly and using too much or adding more creates problems." He has tried a product named Critter Ridder with limited success, but said another called Plantskydd, made of blood meal with the fertilizing component removed and applied with a backpack sprayer is much more effective. "It's expensive but it lasts several months."

Chicken wire and fencing, such is used in national parks, is "really the only effective, earth-friendly way to keep them out. Deer fence doesn't have to be ugly, but it should be more than six feet tall. You can't use electric fencing in towns, but you could try balloons, water sprayers and noisemakers. Sometimes you have to turn your yard into a fortress."

That certainly could be necessary in Penner's hometown, Lethbridge, where he has seen 36 deer in one urban herd, and says, "they wander into buildings and they moon us."

What they eat is not the only problem, Penner added. "They rub their antlers on things and can destroy things you've worked for years on. The pheromones their horns produce attract more deer." An abundance of deer is also "not good for the forest. They eat tree seedlings." He said deer are also now attracting predators such as cougars, "because that's how nature works, and nobody wants cougars in their yards."

"Do not let deer feel welcome. Throw rocks at them, spray them with the hose," he advised. A dog that barks may scare them off, but "it's not a good idea to send the dog after them, because it could be injured."

From large animal pests, Penner moved on to much smaller but equally annoying and destructive creatures: mice. "They're all married and have large families, producing babies 12 at a time, and some of them carry Hanta virus."

To reduce mouse problems, he suggested "really good sanitation" and keeping such mouse-friendly attractions as woodpiles and bales away from the garden. "Mice chew plum trees and are just as destructive as deer. They chew pumpkins, they eat fertilizer and chew electrical wires." He praised snakes, herons, owls and hawks for helping to thin down the mouse population, and reminded the gardeners to wear gloves and a mask when they are cleaning up mouse droppings.

Grasshoppers are "very cyclical" and they "eat whatever is soft and tender," Penner said, suggesting that sweet alyssum and annual grasses be planted around the tender plants you want to protect. "They will eat them first."

As for sapsuckers, "there's not much you can do," although he has heard of people brushing trees with maple syrup, which may have been "one of the nutty things you find on the Internet. Just don't do them."

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Design a garden to delight

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

"I don't know what to do with my garden" is a common complaint, says garden expert Lyndon Penner, author of 'The Prairie Sort Season Yard: Quick and Beautiful on the Canadian Prairies,' as well as other gardening and landscaping books. Many of us "tend to be plunkers, spending money we don't have on plants we don't know how to grow, to impress people we don't like," he adds, with results that are far less than impressive.

"Your garden says something to the world about you," he noted, and a well-arranged garden gives a positive statement. "You also have to ask yourself 'how do I want to feel in the garden?' and the goal should be to relieve stress, not cause it." He suggests including a place to sit

in a location "where you feel peaceful."

In designing a garden, both our own needs and those of the plants must be considered, he said. "We have to plant plants where they want to be, not necessarily where we want," due to their preference for sun, partial or full shade and whether they do best in dry or moister soil conditions. "Sometimes we cheat ourselves out of weeks of colour by unwise planting," when plants are not situated appropriately. A garden inventory that answers the question, "when do things bloom?" can be useful to provide continuous colour in the garden.

"What is the need being met by putting that plant there?" is another question the gardener must consider, whether in regards to height, width or colour, with colour being "of critical importance," he noted.

(Continued on Page 14)



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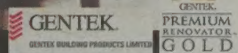
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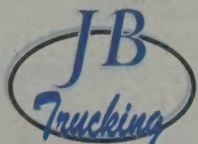
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Gardeners get advice from 'The Doktors'

VICKI BROOKER

Review Staff

Avid gardener Joyce Doktor and greenhouse owner and operator Judy Cabay were kept busy answering a wide variety of questions and tossing in helpful tips at last month's Bonnyville Gardeners' Day session entitled, "The Garden Doktors."

Gobbling grubs are notorious for eating lily bulbs, and Joyce suggested lining the holes with a half inch of sharp garden sand, "which also provides drainage so the bulbs don't rot." Judy noted that another reason that fall-planted bulbs fail to appear the next spring is that moles and squirrels have snacked on them over the winter.

Out-of-zone plants can be successful if you plant them next to large rocks in your landscape, Joyce advised the gardeners. "They hold the cold in the soil so the plants don't start growing too soon, and stay dormant longer." In the summer, she added, the rocks hold the heat and make the plants grow faster.

Black spot in potatoes is caused by tiny worms and can be caused by manure put on the soil. The ladies suggested the use of granular Malathion, well watered in. You can also use sulphur. Potato scab is another common problem that can be reduced by using sulphur. "Line your holes with a sprinkle of sulphur, and sprinkle the tops of the potatoes with sulphur before you cover them up," they agreed, although they didn't agree on whether potatoes should be planted whole or cut into pieces with eyes. Joyce suggested that wood chip mulch would

use up the nitrogen from the manure's decay process and thus reduce scab over time, but Judy said a faster way to stop manure from blistering potatoes is to "add more dirt, or you will continuously have this problem"

Joyce, whose extensive garden includes 400 shrubs and 450 lilies, uses "a lot of mulch, four to six inches deep, and I broadcast Miracle Gro when it's raining." It was noted that spruce mulch tends to attract ants, while cedar mulch deters insects. Joyce recommends using cheaper mulch (including that from roadside chipping) under a top dressing of cedar mulch.

Other tips and tricks for growing and keeping potatoes included experiments with growing them in black plastic pails, adding layers of dirt as the plants grow, and planting them in holes cut into ProMix bags. An old bachelor was recalled as successfully keeping his potatoes in a cardboard box under his kitchen sink, which led one of the ladies to try the method, after washing the potatoes top and bottom with a pressure washer and lining her cold room bin with cardboard, with four layers placed on top. The cardboard keeps the potatoes in the dark and they won't sprout until you take them out."

Fertilizer spikes for spruce "work super great," Joyce said, but not pounded into the soil around the tree's drip line, as is suggested in the directions. "The root system goes there and finds the spikes too hot, and it sometimes kills the roots. Take a hammer and pound them until they're fine, and sprinkle them around the tree base," she suggested.

(Continued on Page 13)

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Chickweed

Doktors

(Continued from Page 8)

Chickweed control is a matter of "pick, pick, pick," according to Judy, while Joyce said her mother "said never to pick it or it will have babies." Her control method for the pesky plant is to use Roundup or to turn over the soil it is in. Tilling

up purslane, on the other hand, "creates babies," and Roundup doesn't work on the flat creeping plant, for which "hand picking is the only answer."

Tree issues were also on the gardeners' minds. 'Hooked' tops on spruce trees are the result of the white pine weevil, and should be cut off six inches below the last sign of damage.

Black cherry knot is frequently found on Schubert chokecherry trees and should be cut off six to eight inches below the knot. "If the stem still has black spots, cut off some more," these experts say, "then dip your cutters in bleach and burn the material you've cut off." Spruce bugs and spider mites should be sprayed with Malathion.



Purslane



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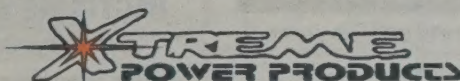
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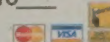


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Design

(Continued from Page 10)

Speed is not the essence when designing a garden, Penner feels, while

planning is. "We want everything right now and we make very bad landscaping decisions in the name of 'right now.' It's such a tragedy when a mature tree has to come out because it never should have

been there." With a variety of sizes of most trees now available, it is possible to put larger trees into your landscape, rather than planting smaller versions without considering how large they will be in the future. Closely planted trees have caused problems for many, some planted too close to houses curling under roof overhangs and dislodging siding.

"Trees planted much too close get stressed, and then they get pests and diseases," he cautioned. One of the species that frequently gets planted too close is the columnar Swedish aspen, which he feels "suck all the moisture out of the soil and get aphids and leaf rollers. They're dying in Calgary, and the Schubert chokecherries there are

getting black knot."

Penner also took exception to the use of dry streambeds where no water would ever flow, and saw no reason to install an artificial 'lazy lawn' or artificial plants. While low in maintenance, these features "are just not OK" from his viewpoint.

"A rich tapestry of beauty from the end of May to September, inviting curves that invite people to follow those paths, and an element of surprise all go into the making of a memorable garden," Penner said. A garden should be memorable for the right reasons, he added. "We don't want people to leave your garden baffled and asking themselves, 'what was that all about?'"

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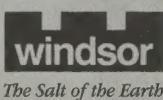
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3010. Auctions

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3010. Auctions

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**Major Unreserved Bankruptcy Public Auction Sale as awarded by
MNP Ltd.: Complete Dispersal Of Rainbow
International Restoration Of Alberta**

Wednesday, May 18th, 2016, 10:00 am sharp
12842-141 Street, Edmonton, AB

**VIEWING: Tuesday, May 17th, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm and Sale Day from 9:00
am to Sale Time. RING 1, STARTS AT 10AM:** Selling office furniture,
wood working tools, hand & power tools.
RING 2, STARTS AT 10:30AM: Selling restoration equipment,
cleaning equipment and inventory, approximately 20 trucks
from 2006 - 2015, a 20ft seacan, and a Clark electric forklift
Visit www.auctions.ca For More Info, Photos And Listings

GARY HANNA AUCTIONS LTD. (780-440-1075) 11303 Yellowhead Trail NW, Edmonton

3210. Misc. For Sale

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3700. Commercial Equipment

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4005. Cattle

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4040. Livestock

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www.simmeronranch.ca.

5010. Auctions

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4040. Livestock

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5003. Real Estate Misc.

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Saskatchewan. Ritchie Bros.
Auctioneers Unreserved
Auction, June 27 in Saskatoon.
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0.35 +/- acres. Brennan
LeBlanc: 306-280-4878;
rbauktion.com/realstate.

5 PARCELS OF Farmland
near Hondo, Alberta. Ritchie
Bros. Auctioneers Unreserved
Auction on June 9. Over 475
acres of Farmland & Grazing
Lease. Contact Cody Rude:
780-722-9777;
rbauktion.com/realstate.

**INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY &
Shop** - Strathmore, Alberta.
Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers
Unreserved Auction, June 15
in Edmonton. 2+/- title acres
industrial property & 8000 sq.
ft. shop. Jerry Hodge:
780-706-6652. Broker: All
West Realty Ltd.;
rbauktion.com/realstate.

7510. Moving/Hauling/Storage

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Elk Point Elementary's got talent!

Almost two dozen performers from Grades 3 to 6 took to Elk Point Elementary School's stage on Friday to showcase a wide range of talents.

Above, left to right, are Heath and Spencer with a Tae Kwon-Do demonstration and Kobe and Casey Warawa rocking out with Green Day; at right is Dallan Pinder, singing Olaf's song from 'Frozen' with a little help from some friends.

In the first row below, left to right, are half of the gymnastics duo of Camryn and Ethan, Ella Ballas with the 'Cup Song' and Lilyen and Autumn with a dance routine. Bottom row, left to right, are Ethan and Owen Hampson with a musical theatre routine entitled "Poisoning Pigeons in the Park", Ryan Urquhart on recorder, and Wyatt, Saige and Alexis singing "Let's Have Fun in Minecraft."

Not shown are Sharienne and Kaylee with a skipping routine, Nic Penner on recorder, vocal soloists Elisha Sears and Kylie Young and pianists Kaylee Radcliffe and Ella Smith. Mistress of ceremonies was Mrs. Newby.

Vicki Brooker photos

